

## PROCEDURES FOR NAMING ROADS/BRIDGES/FERRIES

The following documentation and information is required before any naming request will be considered by the Board of Transportation.

### **Information to be provided by the local nominating entity:**

- 1. Background information on nominee.** Sufficient information must be provided to explain why the naming is warranted; for example, local, state, and/or national contributions and accomplishments. If the designee is recently deceased, the request will be reviewed after a one year waiting period except for extenuating circumstances.
- 2. Description of what is requested to be named.** The Board will consider naming Ferries, Interstate, US, and NC roads/bridges only, or more significant bridges on the state's secondary road system. The distance of road dedication should be approximately 5 miles or less. Law enforcement officers will be honored with bridge dedications in lieu of highways.
- 3. Resolutions from all local governing bodies associated with or affected by the request.** City or town councils and/or county commissioners must adopt resolutions in a public forum and in sufficient detail to adequately justify the request. The road or bridge must be entirely within the boundaries of the requesting governing body or bodies.
- 4. Strong public input and support.** Explain the degree to which the public supports the request and had notice of action with an opportunity for input.
- 5. Municipal officials and employees should be recognized with a municipally owned road or bridge** in lieu of a state owned road or bridge except when there is a significant connection or association between the individual and a specific state owned road or bridge.
- 6. The requesting party shall reimburse the Department \$1,000 toward the costs of the signs.** This represents approximately 50% of the sign cost.

**NCDOT Staff Review:****7. Whether another facility has been previously named by the BOT.**

The Board does not name more than one facility for the same individual. Requests for duplicate family members reviewed on case by case basis.

**8. If the facility is planned or under construction, expected completion date.** The Board typically does not name facilities until approximately three months prior to completion.**9. Opposition.** The Board does not mediate local disagreements. Requests must be a unanimous decision to be considered.**Action by the Road and Bridge Naming Committee and Board of Transportation:**

- a. Board member must endorse request and present to Committee and Board.
- b. NCDOT Secretary and Board Chairman are Co-Chairs of the Committee and call meetings and approve the agenda.
- c. A naming request reviewed and recommended by the Committee will be "held" for at least one month before being considered by the full Board.

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION TO ASSIST WITH ROAD/BRIDGE NAMING REQUESTS**  
**FROM INDIVIDUALS AND GOVERNMENTS:**

- The requesting party should have the family's support for the road or bridge naming request including agreement with the requested location of the dedication.
- The requested wording to appear on the actual signs needs to be stated in the resolution by the local government (with the family's concurrence) to insure the signs are manufactured correctly. Final wording is at the Department's discretion.
- Payment is due to the Department upon notification that the honorary designation has been approved by the Board. Signs will not be manufactured until payment is received.
- Local governments could consider the "Adopt a Highway" program as an alternative method of honoring an individual or group.
- The Board does not typically name a facility for accident victims. An individual's accomplishments and contributions to the state and community are used as criteria for consideration for a memorial designation.
- It is the responsibility of the individual seeking the road or bridge naming request to work directly with the local government to obtain the necessary resolution for submittal to the Board.
- Municipalities may name municipally owned streets or bridges in honor of individuals or groups. This does not require DOT review or approval.
- Honorary signs will be ground mounted; overhead signs will not be installed. Signs will be installed at the beginning and ending termini of the approved roadway segment, and will not be installed on exits, Y-lines, or intersecting roadways.
- Signs will not include titles except for certain designations as determined by the committee (i.e. Trooper, Congressman, Governor).
- Dedications for law enforcement officers are for North Carolina officers killed in the line of duty.
- Honorary designations will be roads/bridges and not structures or buildings.
- The Department has over 1,000 miles designated as the Blue Star Highway Network including all interstates, US routes, and most NC routes. This extensive network honors all veterans and military groups in the state. See attachment for additional criteria for military designations and the Blue Star Highway.

### Individual Military Recognitions on State Owned Roads and Bridges

1. Criteria for consideration for individual military designations –
  - a. Recipient of Valor Medals as designated by Defense Department (handout) are eligible for individual road or bridge designations.
  - b. Verification of the award would be provided by the requesting party at the time the formal resolution is submitted.
  - c. Medal of Honor recipients are eligible for interstate designations; other levels would be US or NC routes.
  - d. Signage would be the same format, size, appearance as other honorary designations with abbreviation for military title.
  - e. Recipients should be North Carolina residents. Individual can be identified as a current resident of NC, a resident of NC during the period of service which the incident occurred, or had established NC residence prior to death. Residence verification is a person who filed NC taxes and/or is registered to vote as a NC resident. Proof of residency is to be provided by the requesting party at the time the formal resolution is submitted.
  - f. Resolutions from the local government entity would still be required and the same rules and procedures used for all other honorary designations would be applicable (5 mile segment, cost sharing, etc.)
  - g. Living and deceased veterans are eligible
2. Requests for honorary designations for specific groups such as Bladen County Veterans or 100<sup>th</sup> Infantry, or a particular branch of the military are considered honored with the Blue Star Highway network.
3. New interstate designations and segments will automatically be added to the BSH as completed.